

POPULAR SPORTS, EXHIBITIONS, AND
 DRAMA 579

his aim is to influence by graphic satirical description. In our day the comic papers attempt the task of the etholog. They try to satirize manners and men. A comic paper owned or subsidized by a political party is the sorriest representative of Pierrot that the world has yet seen. The biolog personates an individual type, like an aberration of human nature, which may be found anywhere and at any time. The etholog personates a specimen of a class which helps to characterize a period. Dandies exist at all times, but vary in detail. The fatuity and vanity of all dandies are features for the etholog; the follies of the dandy of a period belong to the biolog. Beau Brummel would be a model for a biolog. The etholog is apt to overlook his best subjects. He cannot himself escape from his own times enough to recognize them. He never satirizes the reigning features. The American etholog never satirizes democracy, or the politician, or the newspaper. The etholog wants a big party or a strong sentiment behind him. It is not until after skepticism about a ruling "way" has formed in the minds of a large section of the masses that the etholog makes himself the mouthpiece of it. We have no satire yet on militarism, or imperialism, or the Monroe doctrine. A protective tariff is a grand object for satire, but so long as the masses believe in it satire is powerless. The same is true of any folkway so long as it is not yet doubted. Satire is then blasphemy. While a way is prevalent there is-pathos about it (sec. 178), as there is now amongst us about democracy, but there never can be-satire and pathos at the same time, in the same society, about the same thing. One

might have be-
 lieved that nothing need be sacred to the theaters
 of Paris, but
 a few years ago a play was written which set the
 French Revolution in a different light from the now
 consecrated common-
 place in regard to it. It was found impossible to
 produce it.
 A marionette player and his wife made fun of
 Pere Duchesne
 on the boulevard during the Revolution. Both were
 guillotined.¹
 These facts limit very much the high moral function
 sometimes
 ascribed to satire. It never gets into action until
 the mischief
 is done. It never squelches a folly at its
 commencement. That

¹ Magnin, *Marionettes* ^ 188.